

# COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Treatment FAQs

### What is a monoclonal antibody?

A monoclonal antibody is a laboratory-made protein that mimics your body's immune system's ability to fight off harmful viruses and bacteria that can cause disease. It is a treatment that can help you recover faster from COVID-19.

#### What treatments are authorized to treat COVID-19?

Casirivimab/imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) by Regeneron is a monoclonal antibody for which the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) to treat mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in non-hospitalized adult and pediatric patients.

## Who can receive monoclonal antibody treatment?

If you test positive for COVID-19 and meet the following criteria, you may be eligible to receive a monoclonal antibody infusion or injection:

- Your COVID-19 test comes back positive
- You are not hospitalized
- You have had mild to moderate symptoms that started less than 10 days ago
- You have certain medical conditions or other factors that may place adults and pediatric patients (age 12-17 years, and weigh at least 88 lbs.) at higher risk of progressing to severe infection:
  - o Age 65 years or older
  - Obese or overweight which may include a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or higher for adults or a BMI in the 85th percentile or higher on the growth chart for pediatric patients
  - Pregnant
  - Diabetes
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - Immunosuppressive disease or on immunosuppressive treatment
  - Cardiovascular disease (including congenital heart disease) or hypertension
  - Chronic lung disease such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), moderate to severe asthma, cystic fibrosis, or pulmonary hypertension
  - o Sickle cell disease
  - Neurodevelopmental disorders such as cerebral palsy
  - Medical-related technological dependence (tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or ventilation not related to COVID)

#### How are monoclonal antibody treatments given?

Treatment may be given as an infusion through a vein (IV) or as an injection under the skin. You should check with your health care provider to see if you can get the treatment at their facility. The total time to get the treatment may take about an hour and a half. This includes monitoring for one hour after getting the treatment.

#### Why would I consider receiving a monoclonal antibody infusion or injection?

This treatment may decrease the chance of higher risk patients progressing to severe disease and/or hospitalization.

#### Is there a cost to receive this treatment?

There are federal re-imbursement mechanisms to facilities to provide monoclonal antibody for all patients regardless of insurance status, and we encourage them to use that. How each facility manages that may vary and would need to be asked of the facility.

# Do I need a referral from my health care provider before I can get this treatment?

You should talk to your health care provider about this treatment option and if you meet the criteria.

#### Where I can find this treatment near me?

If you do not have a medical provider, you can go online to the link below to find the nearest place that may be able to discuss this option and may treat you.

https://covid19.tn.gov/monoclonal-antibodies-infusion-therapy/